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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,426	10/30/2001	Martin DeGeorge	MATP-607US	2073

23122 7590 03/17/2003

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EXAMINER
ELAHEE, MD S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2697	

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/021,426	DEGEORGE, MARTIN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Md S Elahee	2697	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *03* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *02* .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 6, 13, 15, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hansen (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,650).

Regarding claim 1, Hansen teaches a voice mail system that receives the audio message (abstract; col.6, lines 41-54; 'voice mail system' reads on the claim 'answering machine module' and 'message' reads on the claim 'messages').

Hansen further teaches converting the DTMF tones to text (fig.13; col.17, lines 32-43; 'converting' reads on the claim 'a DTMF tone decoder which converts').

Hansen further teaches a mailbox (abstract; col.6, lines 41-64; 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

Hansen further teaches recording the audio message and the text corresponding to the DTMF tones into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a processor that stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'received audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

Regarding claim 3, Hansen further teaches recording the audio message corresponding the text into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a processor that stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'the speech signals in place of the DTMF tones in the respective audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

Regarding claim 6, Hansen teaches a voice mail system including a display phone and inherently an audio output port, whereby the audio message are provided to the playback key and the respective stored text is provided to the display phone for displaying to a caller (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'voice mail system' reads on the claim 'telephone answering machine', 'display phone' reads on the claim 'display output port', 'message' reads on the claim 'messages', 'displaying' reads on the claim 'concurrent presentation' and 'caller' reads on the claim 'user').

Regarding claim 13, Hansen teaches receiving the audio message (abstract; col.6, lines 41-54; 'audio message' reads on the claim 'telephone audio messages').

Hansen further teaches converting the DTMF tones to text (fig.13; col.17, lines 32-43). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow converting the DTMF tones to text as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the conversion in order to provide the message in text format.

Hansen further teaches recording the audio message and the text corresponding to the DTMF tones into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording'

reads on the claim 'storing', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'received audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

Regarding claim 15, Hansen further teaches recording the audio message corresponding the text into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a processor that stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'the speech signals in place of the DTMF tones in the respective audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

Regarding claim 16, Hansen teaches dialing a number by providing stored text (fig.18; col.19, lines 65-67, col.20, lines 1-67, col.21, lines 1-67, col.22, lines 1-31; 'dialing a number' reads on the claim 'initiating a telephone call' and 'text' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones corresponding to one of the received audio messages to a telecommunications network').

Regarding claim 18, Hansen teaches providing the audio message (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64; 'audio message' reads on the claim 'audio messages as an audio output signal').

Hansen further teaches displaying stored text corresponding to audio message as the respective audio message is provided (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,650) and in view of McNutt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,805,207).

Regarding claim 2, Hansen fails to teach "text-to-speech conversion means which converts the text to speech signals". McNutt teaches software routines converting the text to speech parameter (col.4, lines 44-67, col.5, lines 1-13; 'software routines' reads on the claim 'text-to-speech conversion means' and 'speech parameter' reads on the claim 'speech signals'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow text-to-speech conversion means as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the text-to-speech conversion means in order to provide the speech signal.

Hansen further teaches recording the audio message corresponding the text into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a processor that stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'speech signals with the respective audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

Regarding claim 14, Hansen fails to teach "converting the text to speech signals". McNutt teaches converting the text to speech parameter (col.4, lines 44-67, col.5, lines 1-13; 'speech parameter' reads on the claim 'speech signals'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow text-to-speech conversion means as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the text-to-speech conversion means in order to provide the speech signal.

Hansen further teaches recording the audio message corresponding the text into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a

processor that stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'speech signals with the respective audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device').

5. Claims 4, 5 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,650) and in view of McNutt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,805,207) and further in view of Tverskoy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,160).

Regarding claim 4, Hansen fails to teach "a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands to the processor". McNutt teaches telephone interface for providing commands (col.6, lines 50-67; 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface, coupled to the processor' and 'commands' reads on the claim 'user commands to the processor'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the user interface for providing user commands in order to retrieve the stored message.

Hansen in view of McNutt further fails to teach "an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN)". Tverskoy teaches an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) (fig.1; col.2, lines 5-38). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen in view of McNutt to allow an interface as taught by Tverskoy. The motivation for the modification is to have the interface in order to provide communication between different communication entities.

Hansen further fails to teach "the processor is responsive to a command provided via the user interface to retrieve the DTMF tones from the storage device". McNutt teaches commands provided via telephone interface to retrieve message from the memory (abstract; col.5, lines 51-

65, col.6, lines 39-67, col.7, lines 1-5; 'commands' reads on the claim 'the processor is responsive to a command', 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface' and 'message from the memory' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones from the storage device'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow the processor responsive to a command as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the command provided via the user interface in order to retrieve the stored message.

Hansen further teaches providing the text to dial a number (fig.18; col.19, lines 65-67, col.20, lines 1-67, col.21, lines 1-67, col.22, lines 1-31; 'text' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones to the PSTN interface' and 'dial a number' reads on the claim 'initiate a telephone call').

Regarding claim 5, Hansen fails to teach "a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands to the processor". McNutt teaches telephone interface for providing commands (col.6, lines 50-67; 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface, coupled to the processor' and 'commands' reads on the claim 'user commands to the processor'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the user interface for providing user commands in order to retrieve the stored message.

Hansen in view of McNutt further fails to teach "an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN)". Tverskoy teaches an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) (fig.1; col.2, lines 5-38). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen in view of McNutt to allow

an interface as taught by Tverskoy. The motivation for the modification is to have the interface in order to provide communication between different communication entities.

Hansen further fails to teach "a DTMF tone generator configured to translate text numbers into DTMF tones". McNutt teaches a DTMF generator circuit to convert text into DTMF signals (abstract; col.4, lines 44-68, col.5, lines 1-30; 'DTMF generator circuit' reads on the claim 'DTMF tone generator configured', 'convert' reads on the claim 'translate' and 'text into DTMF signals' reads on the claim 'text numbers into DTMF tones'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow the DTMF tone generator to translate text numbers into DTMF tones as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the DTMF tone generator in order to provide the telephone number to the callee.

Hansen further teaches providing the text to dial a number (fig.18; col.19, lines 65-67, col.20, lines 1-67, col.21, lines 1-67, col.22, lines 1-31; 'text' reads on the claim 'the translated DTMF tones to the PSTN interface' and 'dial a number' reads on the claim 'initiate a telephone call').

Hansen further fails to teach "the processor is responsive to a command provided via the user interface to retrieve the text corresponding to the DTMF tones from the storage device and to provide the retrieved text to the DTMF tone generator". McNutt teaches commands provided via telephone interface to retrieve message from the memory and to provide the retrieved message to DTMF generator circuit (abstract; col.4, lines 44-68, col.5, lines 1-30, 51-65, col.6, lines 39-67, col.7, lines 1-5; 'commands' reads on the claim 'the processor is responsive to a command', 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface', 'message from the

memory' reads on the claim 'text corresponding to the DTMF tones from the storage device' and 'DTMF generator circuit' reads on the claim 'DTMF tone generator configured'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow the processor responsive to a command as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the command provided via the user interface in order to retrieve the stored message to make a call.

Regarding claim 17, Hansen further fails to teach "converting the stored text corresponding to one of the received audio messages to DTMF tones". McNutt teaches converting text into DTMF signals (abstract; col.4, lines 44-68, col.5, lines 1-30; 'text into DTMF signals' reads on the claim 'the stored text corresponding to one of the received audio messages to DTMF tones'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansen to allow the DTMF tone generator to convert text to DTMF tones as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the conversion in order to provide the telephone number to the callee.

Hansen further teaches dialing a number by providing the stored text (fig.18; col.19, lines 65-67, col.20, lines 1-67, col.21, lines 1-67, col.22, lines 1-31; 'dialing a number' reads on the claim 'initiating a telephone call' and 'stored text' reads on the claim 'converted DTMF tones to a telecommunications network').

6. Claims 7 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schindler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,467) and in view of Hansen (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,650).

Regarding claim 7, Schindler teaches video driver (col.3, lines 38-67, col.21, lines 49-67, col.22, lines 1-14; 'video driver' reads on the claim 'video processing circuitry').

Schindler further teaches audio processing circuit (col.3, lines 38-67, col.21, lines 49-67, col.22, lines 1-14; 'audio processing circuit' reads on the claim 'audio processing circuitry').

Schindler fails to teach "a telecommunications unit, including an answering machine module that receives audio messages". Hansen teaches a voice mail system that receives the audio message (abstract; col.6, lines 41-54; 'voice mail system' reads on the claim 'a telecommunications unit, including answering machine module' and 'message' reads on the claim 'messages'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler to allow a telecommunications unit, including an answering machine module as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the answering machine module in order to receive incoming messages.

Schindler further fails to teach "a DTMF tone decoder which converts DTMF tones in the received audio messages to text". Hansen teaches converting the DTMF tones to text (fig.13; col.17, lines 32-43; 'converting' reads on the claim 'a DTMF tone decoder which converts' and 'DTMF tones' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones in the received audio messages'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler to allow converting the DTMF tones to text as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the conversion in order to provide the message in text format.

Schindler further fails to teach "a storage device". Hansen teaches a mailbox (abstract; col.6, lines 41-64; 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler

to allow a storage device as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the storage device in order to store messages for later retrieval.

Schindler further fails to teach "a processor which stores the received audio messages and the text corresponding to the DTMF tones into the storage device". Hansen teaches recording the audio message and the text corresponding to the DTMF tones into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a processor which stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'received audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler to allow a processor storing the received audio messages and the text as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the storage in order to store messages for later retrieval.

Schindler further teaches playing audio output using the audio processing circuit for audio output (col.21, lines 49-67, col.22, lines 1-14; 'playing audio output' reads on the claim 'replays the stored messages' and 'audio processing circuit' reads on the claim 'audio processing circuitry').

Schindler further teaches displaying the data using video driver (abstract; col.3, lines 42-67, col.21, lines 49-67, col.22, lines 1-14; 'data' reads on the claim 'text' and 'video driver' reads on the claim 'video processing circuitry').

Regarding claim 12, Schindler further teaches including a data quality monitor for providing display video signal and an audio processing circuit for presenting audio data associated with the displayed video signals, whereby the audio data are provided to the audio processing circuit and the respective data is provided to the data quality monitor for concurrent

presentation to a user (abstract; col.3, lines 42-67, col.21, lines 49-67, col.22, lines 1-14; 'data quality monitor' reads on the claim 'display output port', 'video signal' reads on the claim 'video signal received by the IRD set-top box', 'audio processing circuit' reads on the claim 'audio output port', 'audio data' reads on the claim 'sound signals', 'audio data' reads on the claim 'stored audio messages' and 'data' reads on the claim 'stored text').

7. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schindler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,467) and in view of Hansen (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,650) and further in view of McNutt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,805,207).

Regarding claim 8, Schindler in view of Hansen fails to teach "text-to-speech conversion means which converts the text to speech signals". McNutt teaches software routines converting the text to speech parameter (col.4, lines 44-67, col.5, lines 1-13; 'software routines' reads on the claim 'text-to-speech conversion means' and 'speech parameter' reads on the claim 'speech signals'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen to allow text-to-speech conversion means as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the text-to-speech conversion means in order to provide the speech signal.

Schindler further fails to teach "the processor stores the speech signals with the respective audio messages corresponding to the text in the storage device". Hansen teaches recording the audio message corresponding to the text into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'a processor stores', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'the speech signals with the respective audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify Schindler to allow a processor storing the received audio messages and the text as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the storage in order to store messages for later retrieval.

Regarding claim 9, Schindler fails to teach "the processor is configured to store the speech signals in place of the DTMF tones in the respective audio messages in the storage device". Hansen teaches recording the audio message into a mailbox (abstract; fig.13; col.6, lines 41-64, col.17, lines 32-43; 'recording' reads on the claim 'the processor is configured to store', 'audio message' reads on the claim 'speech signals in place of the DTMF tones in the respective audio messages' and 'mailbox' reads on the claim 'storage device'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler to allow a processor storing the received audio messages and the text as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the storage in order to store messages for later retrieval.

8. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schindler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,467) and in view of Hansen (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,650) and further in view of McNutt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,805,207) and further in view of Tverskoy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,160).

Regarding claim 10, Schindler in view of Hansen fails to teach "a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands to the processor". McNutt teaches telephone interface for providing commands (col.6, lines 50-67; 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface, coupled to the processor' and 'commands' reads on the claim 'user commands to the processor'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen to allow a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the user interface for providing user commands in order to retrieve the stored message.

Schindler in view of Hansen further in view of McNutt further fails to teach "an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN)". Tverskoy teaches an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) (fig.1; col.2, lines 5-38). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen further in view of McNutt to allow an interface as taught by Tverskoy. The motivation for the modification is to have the interface in order to provide communication between different communication entities.

Schindler in view of Hansen further fails to teach "the processor is responsive to a command provided via the user interface to retrieve the DTMF tones from the storage device". McNutt teaches commands provided via telephone interface to retrieve message from the memory (abstract; col.5, lines 51-65, col.6, lines 39-67, col.7, lines 1-5; 'commands' reads on the claim 'the processor is responsive to a command', 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface' and 'message from the memory' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones from the storage device'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen to allow the processor responsive to a command as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the command provided via the user interface in order to retrieve the stored message.

Schindler further fails to teach "provide the DTMF tones to the PSTN interface to initiate a telephone call". Hansen teaches providing the text to dial a number (fig.18; col.19, lines 65-67, col.20, lines 1-67, col.21, lines 1-67, col.22, lines 1-31; 'text' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones to the PSTN interface' and 'dial a number' reads on the claim 'initiate a telephone call'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler to provide the DTMF tones as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the provided DTMF tones in order to make a call.

Regarding claim 11, Schindler in view of Hansen fails to teach "a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands to the processor". McNutt teaches telephone interface for providing commands (col.6, lines 50-67; 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface, coupled to the processor' and 'commands' reads on the claim 'user commands to the processor'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen to allow a user interface, coupled to the processor for providing user commands as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the user interface for providing user commands in order to retrieve the stored message.

Schindler in view of Hansen further in view of McNutt further fails to teach "an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN)". Tverskoy teaches an interface to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) (fig.1; col.2, lines 5-38). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen further in view of McNutt to allow an interface as taught by Tverskoy. The motivation

for the modification is to have the interface in order to provide communication between different communication entities.

Schindler in view of Hansen further fails to teach "a DTMF tone generator configured to translate text numbers into DTMF tones". McNutt teaches a DTMF generator circuit to convert text into DTMF signals (abstract; col.4, lines 44-68, col.5, lines 1-30; 'DTMF generator circuit' reads on the claim 'DTMF tone generator configured', 'convert' reads on the claim 'translate' and 'text into DTMF signals' reads on the claim 'text numbers into DTMF tones'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen to allow the DTMF tone generator to translate text numbers into DTMF tones as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the DTMF tone generator in order to provide the telephone number to the callee.

Schindler further fails to teach "provide the DTMF tones to the PSTN interface to initiate a telephone call". Hansen further teaches providing the text to dial a number (fig.18; col.19, lines 65-67, col.20, lines 1-67, col.21, lines 1-67, col.22, lines 1-31; 'text' reads on the claim 'DTMF tones to the PSTN interface' and 'dial a number' reads on the claim 'initiate a telephone call'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler to provide the DTMF tones as taught by Hansen. The motivation for the modification is to have the provided DTMF tones in order to make a call.

Schindler in view of Hansen further fails to teach "the processor is responsive to a command provided via the user interface to retrieve the text corresponding to the DTMF tones from the storage device and to provide the retrieved text to the DTMF tone generator". McNutt teaches commands provided via telephone interface to retrieve message from the memory and to

provide the retrieved message to DTMF generator circuit (abstract; col.4, lines 44-68, col.5, lines 1-30, 51-65, col.6, lines 39-67, col.7, lines 1-5; 'commands' reads on the claim 'the processor is responsive to a command', 'telephone interface' reads on the claim 'a user interface', 'message from the memory' reads on the claim 'text corresponding to the DTMF tones from the storage device' and 'DTMF generator circuit' reads on the claim 'DTMF tone generator configured'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Schindler in view of Hansen to allow the processor responsive to a command as taught by McNutt. The motivation for the modification is to have the command provided via the user interface in order to retrieve the stored message to make a call.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alam Elahee whose telephone number is (703) 305-4822. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Fri from 9:00am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on (703)305-4717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

M.E.
MD SHAFIUL ALAM ELAHEE
March 10, 2003

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